

Oak Field School and Sports College

Governors' written statement of behaviour principles

Reviewed September 2016

To be reviewed September 2018

Rationale and purpose

*This Statement has been drawn up in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act, 2006, and DfE guidance (Behaviour and Discipline in Schools, 2014).

* The purpose of the Statement is to provide guidance to the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) in drawing up the school's Behaviour Policy so that it reflects the shared aspirations and beliefs of all stakeholders in the school; governors, staff, parents and students, as well as taking full account of law and guidance on behaviour matters. It is intended to help all school staff to be aware of and understand the extent of their powers in respect of recognition and reward for good behaviour, discipline and sanctions for unacceptable behaviour and how to use them. Staff should be confident that they will always have the Governors' support when following this guidance.

*This is a statement of principles, not practice: it is the responsibility of the Headteacher to draw up the school's behaviour policy, though the Headteacher must take account of these principles when formulating this policy. The Headteacher should also take account of the guidance in DfE publication Behaviour and Discipline in Schools: a guide for Headteachers and school staff (Feb 2014).

* The Behaviour Policy is to be published on the school website and shared with all members of staff via INSET and available to all on request.

Principles

Oak Field School's Values:

Oak Field School and Sports College is committed to the advancement of inclusive education for all its pupils, through the development of active and creative minds. It supports a broad, balanced, engaging and rich curriculum in core and foundation subjects, such as liberal arts, humanities, physical education and the development of functional and life skills, including Work Related Learning.

Oak Field promotes respect for diversity, promoting our pupils as global citizens. We encourage a sense of compassion and understanding of others, and a deep respect for human worth and dignity. We recognise and respect every member of the school community's ethnicity, cultural and religious values and sexual orientation. We stress the importance of personal development of each child and young person, with reference to their learning, social emotional, physical, spiritual and moral education.

These values are clearly stated in the Behaviour Policy. These set out expected standards of behaviour, and are shared with and explained to all students. The governing body expect the rules to be consistently applied by all staff.

High standards of behaviour: The governing body of Oak Field School believe that high standards of behaviour lie at the heart of a successful school which enables all of its students to make the best possible progress in all aspects of their school

The right to feel safe at all times: All students, staff and visitors have the right to feel safe at all times in school and free from the effects of unacceptable behaviour. There should be mutual respect between all members of the school community and the policy should help to foster this.

Inclusivity:

Oak Field School is an inclusive establishment. All members of the school community should be able to work or study, free from any form of discrimination, harassment or bullying. (As laid down in the Equality Act, 2010). The school must have a clear and comprehensive Anti- bullying policy that is known and understood by all, consistently applied and monitored for its effectiveness. Measures to protect pupils from bullying and discrimination as a result of gender, race, ability, sexual orientation or background should be clearly set out and regularly monitored for their effective implementation.

Equality: The school's legal duties under the Equality Act, 2010 in respect of safeguarding pupils with Special Educational Needs and all vulnerable pupils should be included in the Behaviour Policy.

Home-School Agreement: Parents/carers are encouraged and helped to support their children's education, just as the students should be helped to understand their responsibilities during their time within the school. The responsibilities of students, parents/carers and school staff with respect to student's behaviour must be covered in the 'Home-School Agreement' which students and parents/carers must be asked to sign when a child joins the school.

Consequences: Sanctions for unacceptable/poor behaviour should be known and understood by all staff and students and consistently applied. The range of sanctions should be described in the Behaviour Policy so that students, staff and parents can understand how and when these are applied. The governing body strongly feel that exclusions, particularly those that are permanent, must be used only as a very last resort.

The policy should include the following in some detail:

- **_Power to use reasonable force or make physical contact:** the situations in which reasonable force may be used (including removing disruptive pupils from classrooms, or preventing them from leaving). A definition of 'reasonable force' should be included, which should also explain how and when pupils may be restrained. The governing body expect appropriate staff to be trained in the use of reasonable force and restraint, using the Approach method. An agreement for its implementation in school to be discussed with parents and signed.
- **_The authority to search students for prohibited items and to confiscate where necessary,** the governing body would expect the Headteacher to inform the relevant authorities when items prohibited by law, weapons, non prescription drugs etc are brought onto the college premises.
- **_The power to discipline outside the school gates:** disciplining beyond the school gates covers the school's response to misbehaviour and bullying that occurs anywhere off the school premises that is witnessed by a member of staff or reported

to the school. This includes any misbehaviour when the student is taking part in any school organised or school related activity.

School Policies should set out the disciplinary action that will be taken against students who are found to have made malicious accusations against school staff and the pastoral support that school staff should expect to receive if they are accused of misusing their powers.